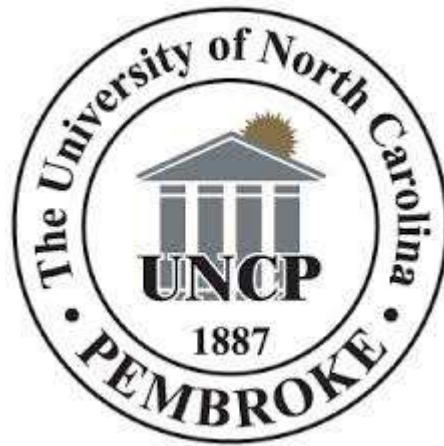


UNCP COUNSELING PROGRAMS
CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING PROGRAM
PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM

2024-2025 Testing Manual



The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

School of Education

Department of Counseling

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UNCP Counseling Programs Testing Manual

This manual includes information regarding testing requirements for degree-seeking students in the UNCP clinical mental health counseling and professional school counseling programs.

There is one test (the CPCE) that is required of all student before starting internship, and there are separate licensure tests that are optional for students if they wish to become licensed.

Students who have questions about which tests would be best for them should contact their academic advisors. Students should also meet with advisors with concerns regarding preparation and studying for their exams.

Informational videos can be found at:

<https://www.uncp.edu/departments/counseling/about-our-programs/field-placement-and-testing>

UNCP Department of Counseling Testing Coordinator



Dr. Nicole Stargell
nicole.stargell@uncp.edu
<https://www.uncp.edu/profile/nicole-stargell>

Students who have general questions about testing should contact the UNCP Department of Counseling Testing Coordinator.

The UNCP Department of Counseling Testing Coordinator is responsible for coordinating three administrations of the CPCE (Summer, Fall, and Spring) and two administrations of the NCE (fall and spring) annually. The Testing Coordinator reports testing results to all relevant parties and corresponds with the test publishers and test administrators on an ongoing basis.

Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE)

Note: The CPCE is a computer-based exam held at a Pearson Vue Testing Center

1. The CPCE is created by CCE (<http://www.cce-global.org/>) and utilized by over 380 universities and colleges.
2. All CMHC and PSC (60 credits) students are required to take the CPCE when enrolled in CNS 6100.
3. All degree-seeking Master of Arts in Education students in both Clinical Mental Health Counseling (CMHC) and Professional School Counseling (PSC) are required to pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (CPCE) before beginning Internship 6120 or 6130.
4. All students who are enrolled in CNS 6100 are automatically enrolled to take the CPCE and will receive additional information via Bravemail throughout the semester.
5. No students may take the CPCE early.
6. Students are responsible for the cost of the exam.
7. Students are permitted to take CNS 6100 with only 8/9 core courses previously completed. Students must complete the final core course concurrently with practicum. Students pursuing this option will be required to take the CPCE toward the end of practicum, and they will not be fully finished (but mostly finished) with their last core course, which is tested on the CPCE. Students may choose to complete all core courses before enrolling in CNS 6100 in order to avoid taking the CPCE while simultaneously completing one core course.
8. The CPCE must be taken through UNCP and cannot be taken through another university or organization.

9. Only current UNCP students in the counseling programs may take the CPCE at UNCP.
10. The CPCE is offered toward the end of every Summer, Fall, and Spring semester.
11. Students may take the CPCE once per semester (summer, fall, spring) until they pass or until their time allowed to complete the program has lapsed.
12. All students who previously failed the CPCE will be automatically enrolled to take the CPCE every semester and will receive additional information via email on how to register to retake the exam.
13. Bring a photo ID to the examination.
14. There is no official study guide for the CPCE.
15. The exam covers material from eight content areas.

CPCE Content Area	Corresponding UNCP Courses
Professional Counseling Orientation and Ethical Practice	CNS 5000 and ACA Code of Ethics
Social & Cultural Foundations	CNS 5800
Human Growth and Development	CNS 5025
Career Development	CNS 5700
Counseling and Helping Relationships	CNS 5050 and CNS 5400
Group Counseling and Group Work	CNS 5100
Assessment and Testing	CNS 5600
Research and Program Evaluation	CNS 5500

16. The CPCE consists of 160 multiple choice items with 20 items per each of the eight (8) content areas.
17. Of the 20 items per section, 17 will be scored items and the remaining three will be unscored field test items that are not identified to the student. As such, the total amount of scored questions on the CPCE is 136.

18. A passing score on the CPCE is 70/136. This score was calculated as the average of passing scores for 13 administrations of the CPCE at UNCP from Fall 2013 through the summer of 2018. For those 13 administrations, the passing score was calculated by subtracting one standard deviation from the national average for students who took the same form of the exam in order to graduate.
19. Accommodations (e.g., extended time, paper exams) will be honored with a letter on official letterhead from the UNCP Accessibility Resource Center stating the student's name, their approved accommodations, and a signature. The letter must be submitted to the testing coordinator before paying for the exam.

NCE

Note: The NCE is a computer-based exam held at a Pearson Vue testing center

The National Counselor Exam (NCE) is a national exam created by the National Board for Certified Counselors that is formatted similarly to the CPCE. The exam meets the testing requirement in order to become licensed through the North Carolina Board for Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselors as a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor Associate (LCMHCA). Another exam that meets the LCMHCA testing requirement is the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE). The NCMHCE is not formatted in a multiple choice format and it includes a set of clinical simulations.

At any time after graduating and receiving conferred transcripts, students may register to take the NCE or NCMHCE at a state testing site through the following link: <http://www.nbcc.org/> Alternatively, students may participate in the early administration of the NCE/NCMHCE in order to take the exam and become a National Certified Counselor (NCC). With early test results, UNCP students may submit their licensure applications slightly before they get their conferred transcripts in order to expedite their licensure process.

More information about the NCE and obtaining an LCMHCA can be found at:

<https://www.uncp.edu/departments/counseling/about-our-programs/field-placement-and-testing>

- As a special opportunity for UNCP students, an early administration of the NCE/NCMHCE is offered to students during Internship II. This is optional and not required for students.

- Students must be currently enrolled in a degree-granting counseling track to take the NCE/NCMHCE through UNCP. Students enrolled in certificate programs or taking additional courses for licensure are not eligible to take the NCE/NCMHCE through UNCP.
- Students are eligible to take the NCE/NCMHCE if they have passed the CPCE (program comprehensive exam) and are in good academic standing (no incomplete grades or academic warning/probation).
- Successful testers will fulfill the testing requirements to become an LCMHCA and NCC upon graduation, and additionally NCMHCE testers will also be eligible for the Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor (CCMHC) credential with no additional fee after 3,000 documented hours of work in the field.
- If you choose to participate in this early administration program, you are required to complete the NCC application upon graduation, and NCMHCE testers also must apply for the CCMHC upon graduation; the certification fees are included in the student fee. The student fee is slightly higher than taking the exam after graduation, but lower than taking the exam and getting certification after graduation.
 - Certification is not a license to practice counseling
 - Certification indicates that you are trained at nationally-recognized standards
- You may choose not to participate in this early administration program and register to take the NCE or NCMHCE off campus after graduation if desired.
- Additional information: <https://www.nbcc.org/exams/examprep>

The NCE

- Fulfills the testing requirement for provisional clinical licensure in North Carolina (LCMHCA)
- Fulfills the testing requirement for the NCC, a national credential

The NCE:

- must be completed within 3 hours and 45 minutes
- is comprised of 200 multiple-choice questions (160 are scored, 40 questions are being field tested)
- covers six domains:
 - Professional Practice and Ethics
 - Intake, Assessment, and Diagnosis
 - Areas of Clinical Focus
 - Treatment Planning
 - Counseling Skills and Interventions
 - Core Counseling Attributes

To learn more about the NCE visit: <https://www.nbcc.org/exams/nce>

The NCMHCE

The NCMHCE:

- can fulfill provisional clinical licensure testing requirements in North Carolina (LCMHCA)
- can fulfill testing requirements for the NCC, a national credential
- can fulfill testing requirements for the CCMHC, a national credential, after 3,000 documented hours (only for CMHC students)

The NCMHCE:

- consists of 10 clinical simulations designed to sample a broad area of competencies, not merely the recall of isolated facts
- covers six domains:
 - Professional Practice and Ethics
 - Intake, Assessment, and Diagnosis
 - Areas of Clinical Focus
 - Treatment Planning
 - Counseling Skills and Interventions
 - Core Counseling Attributes

To learn more about the NCMHCE visit: <https://www.nbcc.org/exams/ncmhce>

CPCE/NCE Study Guides

Please note that no questions from the actual exam will be in the study guides. Use the questions as indicators of subject matter that should be studied in more depth. Then, consult resources such as your textbooks from core courses to learn more about specific areas of need.

UNCP CAPS can help address mental health factors that may contribute to testing difficulties:

<https://www.uncp.edu/campus-life/counseling-psychological-services>

Study Guides Suggested by the UNCP Counseling Programs

- Mastering the National Counselor Exam and the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam (3rd Edition) https://www.pearson.com/en-us/subject-catalog/p/mastering-the-national-counselor-examination-and-the-counselor-preparation-comprehensive-examination/P200000001001/9780136631248?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=dsa_specific_pages&gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwu8uyBhC6ARIsAKwBGpT_ezciN1XaSbGtjBlvfUmy1-qf-gSM9g8fmRVILi9ILDjiCpeX7T0aAhfKEALw_wcB&gclidsrc=aw.ds
- Encyclopedia of Counseling: Master Review & Tutorial for the NCE, State Counseling Exams, and the CPCE (4th Edition) https://www.routledge.com/Encyclopedia-of-Counseling-Master-Review-and-Tutorial-for-the-National/Rosenthal/p/book/9781138942653?utm_source=author&utm_medium=shared_link&utm_campaign=B027816_km1_5ll_7pp_d717_referrallink-howardrosenthal

Additional Free Study Guides

These resources are provided as a courtesy and are not endorsed or required by the Department of Counseling.

- Pam Turner NCE Prep Youtube Video: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-LekQ97ZzLx14FzranqkMu6vOFMK78F3>
- CPCE sample questions: <http://www.counselorprep.com/cpce-practice-exam/>
- 200 free practice questions for CPCE: <http://www.practicequiz.com/cpce-exam-prep>
- CPCE Practice Test Review: <http://www.testprepreview.com/cpce.htm>
- CPCE flashcards: <http://www.cram.com/tag/cpce>
- CPCE Exam sample items taken from TX State:
<https://www.txstate.edu/clas/Professional-Counseling/current-students/CPCE/sample-items.html>
- CPCE Practice Questions: <https://quizlet.com/subject/CPCE/>
- NCMHCE practice exam items: <http://www.clinicalexamworkshop.com/ncmhce-practice-exam.html>
- NCMHCE practice exam items: <http://www.studyguidezone.com/ncmhce.htm>

Additional Study Guides for a Fee:

These resources are provided as a courtesy and are not endorsed or required by the Department of Counseling.

- CPCE Materials Package: <https://aatbs.com/cpce-materials-package>
- NCE Materials Package: <https://aatbs.com/counseling/nce>
- Mometrix NCE Flashcard Study System: https://www.amazon.com/NCE-Flashcard-Study-System-Examination/dp/1610722329/ref=pd_bxgy_img_2/132-1927118-6960438?pd_rd_w=esQM6&pf_rd_p=6b3eefea-7b16-43e9-bc45-

[2e332cbf99da&pf_rd_r=Z17D7D6CD1GGXQ173WE6&pd_rd_r=67550094-ea2e-484a-8f9a-3ccd9ea7c7e2&pd_rd_wg=LUxNG&pd_rd_i=1610722329&psc=1](http://www.counselorprep.com/national-counselor-examination-study-guide/)

- Study Guide for the National Counselor Examination and CPCE – (print version)
<http://www.counselorprep.com/national-counselor-examination-study-guide/>
- CPCE Secrets Study Guide –
<http://www.mo-media.com/cpce/>
- CPCE Flashcard Study System -
<http://www.flashcardsecrets.com/cpce/>
- CPCE Practice Questions: CPCE Practice Tests & Exam Review for the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Examination -
http://www.amazon.com/CPCE-Practice-Questions-Preparation-Comprehensive/dp/1630948942/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1441052361&sr=1-1&keywords=CPCE
- Vital Information and Review Questions for the NCE, CPCE, and State Counseling Exams: Special 15th Anniversary Edition - (Audio CD)
http://www.amazon.com/Vital-Information-Review-Questions-Counseling/dp/0415801419/ref=sr_1_6?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1441052361&sr=1-6&keywords=CPCE
- NCE Practice Exam Kit -
<http://www.tests.com/NCE-National-Counselor-Practice-Exam?gclid=CJjoucSv07oCFYee4Aod3ioA-g>

Estimated costs for CMHC students applying for licensure

ACA or AMHCA membership fee	CPCE fee	NCE fee for exam and NCC credential (through UNCP)*	LCMHCA application associated fees
<p style="text-align: center;">ACA: \$105</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-or-</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AMHCA: \$84</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Membership in one of these organizations includes liability insurance, which is required for field placement courses, and must be renewed at least once to cover all of field placement</i></p>	<p>\$150.00</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>per administration; must take it during the semester registered for practicum and must pass before beginning internship</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">\$335</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OPTIONAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**Waiting to take the NCE after graduation will cost \$275 for the exam alone and does not include the cost of the optional NCC credential</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***Students who fail the NCE taken through UNCP pay \$150 for a retake; 3 attempts allowed for combined NCC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OPTIONAL (license required to practice)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Transcript fee: \$10 x 2 send CONFERRED transcripts to NBCC and NCBLCMHC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NCE Score Verification: \$65</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LCMHCA Application fee: \$238 (includes background check fee)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jurisprudence exam fee: \$45</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fingerprints: \$20</p>
<p>UNCP Graduation Fee (includes cap & gown): \$100</p>			

Praxis and Professional School Counseling Licensure

Obtaining a Provisional School Counselor License

Professional School Counseling Students can obtain a provisional license to work as a school counselor in North Carolina after completing 24 hours of master's-level counseling coursework. You may print an unofficial transcript from BraveWeb to take with you to interviews to show you have completed at least 24 hours and are eligible for provisional licensure.

Once you receive a job offer, the district HR office will need an official transcript that shows what courses you have completed up to this point. Here's a link for ordering an official transcript: <https://www.uncp.edu/resources/registrar/transcript-ordering-portal>

The district office of the school that hires you will use this transcript to apply for your provisional license from NCDPI.

Becoming a Licensed School Counselor

In addition to completing the UNCP School Counseling Program requirements, students pursuing school counseling licensure will need to take Praxis II test #5422 to become a Licensed School Counselor under the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and must score at least 159. Students are able to take the Praxis II during Internship I, Internship II, or after graduation.

Learn more about the Praxis and schedule your exam at

<https://www.ets.org/praxis/prepare/materials/5422>

When you have passed the Praxis and have official conferred transcripts that show you have graduated and earned a master's degree in professional school counseling, apply for your

school counseling specialty license here: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/educators/educators-licensure/apply-nc-educator-license>

Once your application is submitted, the UNCP School of Education Licensure Office will confirm that you have passed the Praxis and graduated with a master's degree in Professional School Counseling.

Professional School Counselor Praxis II (5422) Study Resources

These resources are not required by the Department of Counseling.

FREE

Praxis Study Companion- <https://www.ets.org/pdfs/praxis/5422.pdf>

Professional School Counselor PRAXIS II Quizlet- <https://quizlet.com/28575409/professional-school-counselor-praxis-ii-flash-cards/>

Youtube- [Praxis II 5421 School Counselor - Counseling Exam Prep](#)

Youtube- [Free Praxis II Professional School Counselor Practice Test \(5421\)](#)

Youtube- [5421 Praxis II Exam Prep School Counselor -Free Study Guide](#)

Free Practice Test- <https://www.testprepreview.com/praxis-ii/school-guidance-counselor.htm>

Free Practice Test: <https://study.com/academy/exam/course/praxis-school-counselor-5422-prep.html>

Praxis II School Counseling and NCE Review (Partial) Flash Cards-

<https://www.cram.com/flashcards/praxis-ii-school-counseling-and-nce-review-partial-4829002>

Praxis II School Counseling Review Flash Cards- <https://www.cram.com/flashcards/praxis-ii-school-counseling-review-5605741>

PAID

Interactive Practice Test subscription- https://pepreg.ets.org/pepreg-web/public/testPrepStore/productDetails/5615267300?_p=PRX

Praxis II Professional School Counselor (5422) Exam Flashcard Study System-
<https://store.mometrix.com/products/praxscoun5422ship>

Praxis II Professional School Counselor (5422) Exam Secrets Study Guide-
https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-School-Counselor-Secrets-Study/dp/1516721225/ref=sr_1_2?crid=WHCHYS04BDVP&keywords=praxis+mometrix+5422&qid=1684415692&srefix=praxis+mometrix+5422%2Caps%2C83&sr=8-2

Praxis II Professional School Counselor (5422) Exam Flashcard Study System:
https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-School-Counselor-Flashcard-System/dp/151672173X/ref=sr_1_1?crid=RV93ZRPOQ4ZI&keywords=mometrix+flash+5422&qid=1684415982&s=books&srefix=mometrix+flash+5422%2Cstripbooks%2C88&sr=1-1

Praxis Professional School Counselor Practice Questions: Practice Tests and Exam Review for the Praxis Subject Assessments - https://www.amazon.com/Praxis-Professional-Counselor-Practice-Questions/dp/1516714350/ref=sr_1_15?crid=37RANLDQK57H1&keywords=praxis+ii+school+counseling&qid=1649689295&srefix=Praxis+II+coun%2Caps%2C70&sr=8-15